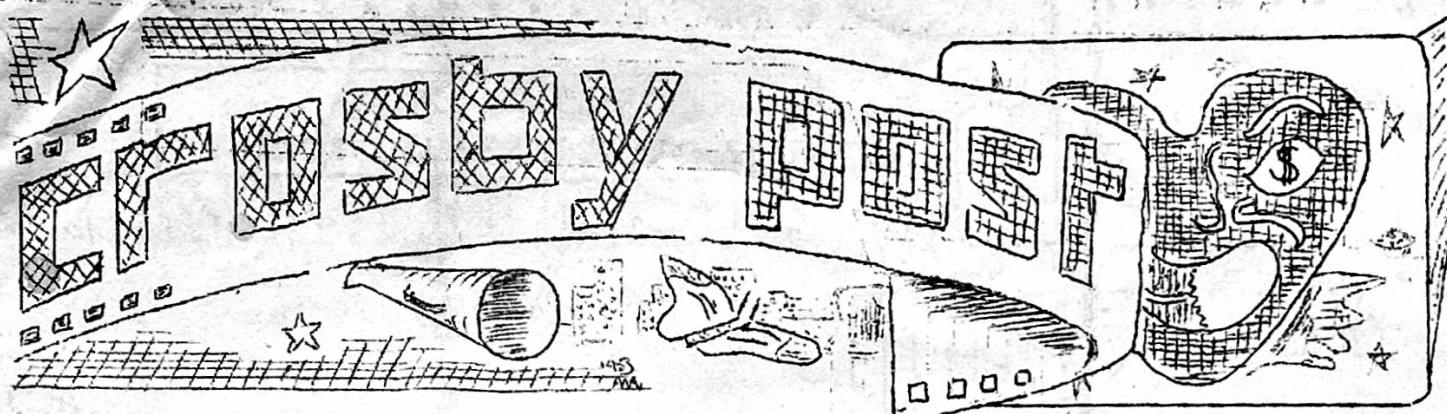




Private Journal of The Crosby Society.

SEPTEMBER 1953.

VOLUME 2.

NUMBER 3.

ANNOUNCING THE FIRST ISSUE OF BING CROSBY VOCALS
ON THE CROSBY SOCIETY "CROSBYANA" RECORD LABEL.

C.S. ST.1 "THAT OLD BLACK MAGIC" (from "Here Come The Waves")
" N E V A D A " both with John Scott Trotter & orch.

If you want this record the price will be 11/- post free, BUT send no money now just tell me (A.N.Allen, 68, Grimston rd., Radford, Nottm.) that you want to order on (or more) copies of this record. We shan't want the 11/- for another month so you have plenty of time to save up. + Please write your orders and post in ordinary 2nd stamped envelope.

ABOUT "CROSBYANA" RECORDS. The above disc and all others will be made of UNBREAKABLE ACETATE for playing on all gramophones. They are the usual ten inch type. They are actually re-recorded or 'dubbed' by professional recording engineers. Experts consider this type of record superior to those sold in the shops. You can bend them, drop them or even throw them - they won't break! To make manufacturing worthwhile we must get at least twenty members orders. You can't get these songs by Bing Crosby from any shop. They will be made for you members only. Each one has an attractive cartoon label printed on both sides. NO PROFITS are made on the records.

"CRSOBYANA" also presents a special Long Playing (33.1/3) rare recording by BING CROSBY.

C.S. L.P. 1 Songs and scenes from "LITTLE BOY LOST"
Songs and scenes from "GOING MY WAY"

The price of this L.P. record is 24/- post free. It lasts 30 minutes (six minutes longer than those you buy in shops) and you can order this one in the same way as described for the ordinary record above. You must have the LONG PLAYING speed setting to play this disc. We must have five orders at the least to effect manufacture of this Long Playing record. It is a ten inch disc.

C R O Z T A L K by jean rainey

There's no need to ask how you feel about Bing's decision to do only two - or perhaps three - pictures and then go into semi-retirement. He'll still make records - his contract has several more years to run - and we presume he will continue his weekly radio show in the USA and will also take a jump into American television.

As we in this country cannot see any USA t/v show, and can only hope to get his weekly radio show which is transcribed by AFN in Germany occasionally when reception is good we are, or shall, experience the blow of the Crosby retirement more than anyone else.

Your club organisers are going to write to Bing earnestly requesting that he reconsider his decision to finish with motion pictures. Our single letter will do no good unless you also choose to write asking him not to retire from films. His address is: Mr. Bing Crosby, 9028, Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles 46, California, U.S.A. REMEMBER, if Bing doesn't get your letter there'll be no more Bing Crosby at your local!

Crosby and Son

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.... by steve cronin.

BING CROSBY and his travelling sidekick, a sharp, polite well bred boy of 15 who happens to be his youngest son Lindsay, will have returned from their trip to Europe by the time you read this.

This knocks into a cocked hat once and for all the rumour that Bing was planning to remain abroad in order to rendezvous in peace with the beautiful Mona Freeman, his sometimes dining companion.

When Bing arrived at Cherbourg aboard the Queen Elizabeth last March, reporters descended upon him and asked him first, "Is it true Monsieur Bing that you are engaged to Mademoiselle Freeman?" and second, "Is it not true that you intend to marry Mademoiselle Freeman, Bing?"

Lindsay, who loves to see his father wriggle out of difficult situations, wisecracked with Sue Robertson, Bing's secretary, as the old Groaner, momentarily perturbed, collected his wits for denial.

"Now look," Bing replied, "I've known Mona ever since she was a child. There's absolutely nothing to that story. Once in a while in Palm Springs we took dinner that's all."

And when Bing said, "That's All." he meant it, because in the last three months of his European sojourn, Mona Freeman was the one subject he would not discuss.

"We just came over to play a little golf," Bing explained. "I also thought it wouldn't do Lindsay any harm to take in Europe and study a little art. He may have some talent along those lines. He paints fairly well for a kid."

Actually Bing came over to Europe for two reasons: (a) he likes privacy, to do whatever he feels like doing without attracting public attention and (b) because he knew that a trip would serve as an antidote for Lindsay's sadness brought about by the death of his mother.

As a matter of fact, Bing has made a habit of spending as much time away from Hollywood as in it. Once he finishes a film and tapes a few radio shows, he takes off for the house in Carmel, the one up at Hayden Lake or the Elko ranch. Within the next few days Bing and the boys will probably be on their way to Nevada to work on the ranch. In Hollywood Bing has the feeling that he is being tracked by bloodhounds. As a writer once put, "let Bing ask for change of a dime and some one makes a story about it." That's why, after Dixie died, he took Lindsay away to Palm Springs. But, even there, he couldn't get away. The papers played up this supposed thing with Mona Freeman as if it was a fully fledged romance. It wasn't.

Bing Crosby is an Irishman who lives in a kind of cathedral-like self-sufficiency. He has few close friends, his closest being Bill Morrow, his writer.

Crosby confides in no one, especially in affairs of the heart. He is not a man who wears sadness on his sleeve. In fact, for a man who makes his living as an actor he is the most atypical actor in Hollywood or the whole world. The Crosby legend in which he is painted as the gay, carefree, lighthearted, insouciant crooner with no depth of intellect or emotion is a complete variance of the facts.

CROSBY and SON - continued from page two

Bing is a little on the sullen side. He prefers solitude which is why he likes to fish and hunt. He is a man who meditates who has his own philosophy of life, a man of moods and tempers and discernment.

Take, for example, the way he lived in Europe. Most American stars who visit the continent. When in Paris they check in at one of two hotels, the Lancaster or the Georges V. These are plush and expensive hostelrys, primarily for foreigners, and if you ever catch a Frenchman living in them, the chances are that you'll be decorated with the legion of honour. They have become known in show business as 'Hollywood Hotels'. Rita Hayworth, Susan Hayward, Olivia De Havilland, Clark Gable - when any of these touch Paris, right away it's either the Lancaster or the Georges V.

Crosby, on the other hand, stays at the Trianon Palace, a quiet expansive, picturesque hotel out in Versailles, ten miles or so from Paris. "It's a good spot," his son Lindsay agrees. "Dad and I can get up early in the morning, shoot a round of golf and nobody bothers you. The service is swell, and, of course, it's very historic. Marie Antoinette and all that. Good for my history."

Bing prefers to make Versailles his European headquarters because the newspaper men in the district rarely bother him. They interview only when he arrives and when he leaves and what he does during his stay there is his own business. There is no accounting of his day to day schedule.

During the middle of May, for example, he, Lindsay and Bill Morrow jumped into their car and moved out of Paris, heading for the Spanish border. Their itinerary was their own affair. No one cared. No one ogled them. No one asked them for snapshots, autographs or interviews en route. When the trio arrived in Biarritz (French holiday resort), they stayed for a day at the home of French comedienne, Gabrielle Dorziat with whom we shall see Bing in LITTLE BOY LOST. Bing was asked to turn up at the Cannes Film Festival and said casually that he might. He was anxious to get to Spain and introduce Lindsay to bullfighting. After Spain their was their Italian tour and then the return to Paris. By this time, Bing, who is much less a disciplinarian than Dixie was, became convinced that it was about time that Lindsay settled down to some serious studying. Bing engaged a well known painter named Mayo to work with Lindsay on his painting for at least three hours a day. It's too early to tell at this time but it looks very much as though Lindsay has a great deal of potential as an artist.

When Bing took Lindsay out of private school in Beverly Hills last year, the opinion was offered that the boy's education might suffer. Actually, Lindsay believes he's learned more on this trip than in years of schooling. Bing believes in formal education very strongly - he sent the four boys to a Jesuit preparatory college and he himself went through Gonzaga, but when Dixie died he realised wisely enough, that for a few months, months of transition, he would have to be both mother and father to his boys. Bing has done the job extremely well. Lindsay has not only recovered himself and adapted himself to life without his mother but new vistas and horizons have been opened to him on this European tour. Lindsay Crosby is very bright and when they were in France Bing and he began to speak French to each other, and they had some pretty riotous linguistic lessons.

In view of the fact that Bing took his youngest son with him this year it is almost certain that, out of fairness, he will take his other three sons on similar trips next year. Just what effect Bing and his four sons will have on continental Europe is hard to tell and sometimes Europeans resent Americans for no good reason at all. Take the incident of Bing and the British Amateur Golf Championship. While Bing was in Paris he phoned and said he would like to take part in this annual championship at Hoylake whereupon Desmond Hackett of the London Daily Express sat down and nastily wrote that Bing should

CROSBY and SON - continued from page three

be barred from the tournament. Hackett accused Bing of making an ass of himself at the 1950 Amateur tournament at St. Andrews, Scotland. He blasted Bing and insisted that he made a cheap circus of the famous golf course. Also accused was Bob Hope.

The attack on Crosby seemed so unfair that the influential London magazine, "Golf Illustrated" came to Bing's rescue. "It has been suggested that Bing is not a good enough golfer to play in the event," said the magazine, "We do not agree with that at all for he is certainly better than many of the home players who enter." The magazine went on to further defend Crosby both as a golfer and a gentleman. It declined, however, to make any statement on Bob Hope.

Outside of England Bing nor his family have ever been adversely criticised. Bing is universally liked although he has never pandered to popularity. "I'm a lazy man and I'm just doing what comes naturally," says Bing Crosby.

It is in the course of Bing's nature to do the right thing. Paul Whiteman who gave Bing one of his first jobs, has said of Bing, "He goes through life trying to help people, and where he can't help, he always makes sure he does no harm. He is a credit to America, a credit to show business and a credit to the revered memory of his wife."

Thousands echo this homage. If any of his sons grow up to half the man their father is they will be held in high esteem by the world.

END.

T H E
EDITOR'S
COMMENT.

The new feature, "Jackie", is an experiment and your opinions on it will shorten or lengthen it's life so do drop a line and let us know just what you think.

Diligent member, Mr. Leonard Shannon, of Leeds, has provided us with a shortened version of "I'll Take The Firelight". This is a story completely composed for Bing to star in by Mr. Shannon. It will cover two pages of the next "Crosby Post" and congratulations must be offered to Leonard for giving us this really fine and extremely interesting 'film story' which he 'tailor made' for Bing. Mr. Shannon would like us to point out that you will only be getting a much condensed version and the actual story contains 70,000 words and he has written several songs for the story which fit in the many musical numbers.

We make many mistakes (oh! brother) but we must draw your attention to a news item in a recent issue of "Picture Show" which gave the impression that Bing Crosby and Jane Wyman have made a film, "Let's Do It Again" for Columbia Pictures. This is an error and actually Ray Milland co-stars with Jane in this new musical.

Many of you have asked about our former vice-president Les Gaylor and his failure to answer letters. He has treated everyone in the same manner and we cannot offer a truthful, positive explanation. All that can be said is that he apparently spare time off from his work at the Avro aircraft plant on the Isle of Wight.

the record of



BY "The Caddy."

It was one of those frequent - much too frequent - wet Saturday mornings about 9 a.m. and we see a large trolley bus ambling along a busy provincial thoroughfare. As the great lumbering mass comes a little nearer we see a youngish man wildly waving his arms about at the 'Buses Stop Here' sign. Bus drivers are apt to miss a well extended arm and it is sometimes necessary to light flares to bring the vehicles to a standstill. Our particular young man is therefore taking no chances and is on the upper deck of the bus before it has really stopped. The bus restarts and as it proceeds on it's rattling way our boy's head makes a complete rotation every time a record or junk dealer's shop is passed. He is hoping to see one of two things which would be (a) a new Bing or, (b) an aged recording of "I've Got The Girl". While searching these shop windows from his high perch he is also busy searching through bundles of small pieces of paper. These were originally 'Monthly Record Supplements' and were issued by a company called Brunswick.

Suddenly our boy leaps up from his seat and dashes down the stairways. Before the trolley bus has given it's final jolt (jolt is the city corporation's patent idea for making certain all passengers standing on the platform and wishing to alight will do so quickly). Getting back to our boy, he is now across the road and making tracks for his 'local'. I should explain that by 'local' we mean the record shop where Jackie gets his weekly supply of Crosby Neuro Sulphate. An anxious look through the plate glass window tells Jackie that Honest Henry, the record dealer, has not yet arrived.

"Ah, well! I'll look what's in the window," says Jackie. "So and so on HMV, whatisname on Capitol, the latest radiogram at 150 guineas."

Suddenly a quiet voice is heard. "Good morning Mr. Johnson." It is Henry and our boy's face lights up. He gently shoves the old gent over the shop counter and goes very pale when he hears, "I don't think those Crosby discs you ordered have arrived yet but, I'll just make sure."

The old gent slowly climbs a small step ladder.

"Fancy keeping Crosby on the top shelf," thinks Jackie. "Wonder he doesn't wear himself out running ~~about~~ up and down those steps for every customer." (I should mention that Jackie thinks there is only one recording artist - a guy named Bing.) A bundle of records nervously supported by the old gent is seen proceeding down the ladder. Of course, our boy is now sweating on the top line in case one is dropped.

"Now let's see," goes on Honest Henry. "What were those numbers". Jackie with an air of utter despair and some impatience recites the record numbers and, to his surprise, they are all soon found and a piece of tape is bound around them.

"Don't tie the tape in a knot," asks Jackie. "I might have difficulty in undoing them when I get home."

The old gent suddenly thinks that he should have played over the discs for Jackie and suggests this to our boy who suddenly goes a bright blue colour and gives the old shop turntable with it's hammer like pick-up a simply disgusting look and replies, "No thankyou."

"Will you order these for next week please."

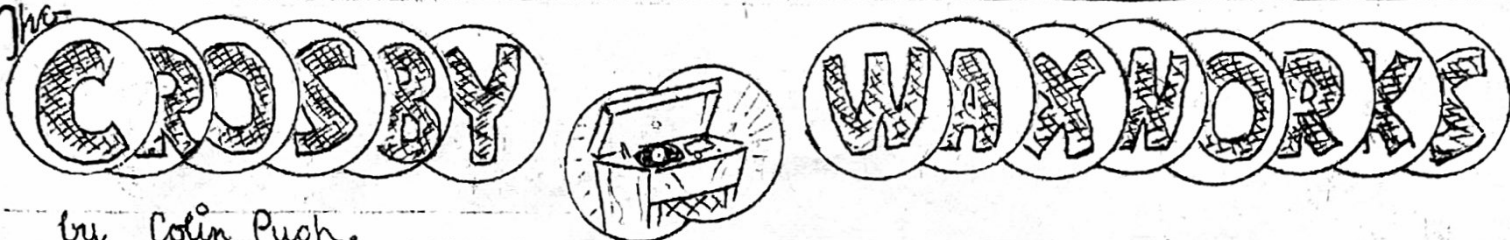
"Are they Crosby?"

A frown tells him they are and he jots the numbers down.

Clutching his priceless parcel Mr. Jackie Johnson hurries home on foot not trusting the jolting transport offered by the corporation.

(Next month we'll tell you how Jackie plays his records - Editor.)

DLREK BRIGGS of, 64 Halkin street, Liecester wants to buy the following and will collect if the donor ~~will~~ lives in a 120 miles radius of Liecester. COLUMBIA DB1901, DB2000, DB2035, DB2123. Brunswick 01285, 02263, 02499, 02083.



by Colin Pugh.

Mid July and August Brunswick releases have brought us no more Bings, but as previously announced, we now have the July issue number 05136. If your tastes run to plenty of screaming brass in a modern swing arrangement you'll go for "I LOVE MY BABY" (Mat. L6896) which Bing 'does' with Jud Conlon's orchestration and John Scott Trotter's Orchestra. I consider the orchestration and the vocalising far in advance of the actual composition and it gives the impression of good talent wasted on poor material.

Entirely in contrast, and apparently entirely without reason, comes English Decca's choice of a backing in the shape of "MOTHER DARLIN'". Secretly I think the company use the 'pin' method of selection with a sheet of assorted titles. The Matrix is 83728 and in the States it is backed with "HUSH(A)BYE" (Mat. 83729) on Decca 28581 which, of course, is it's natural backing. Even before you hear it the spelling of 'darlin' ' gives it away as being an Irish number, a medium in which Bing always excels. Although this particular piece is not likely to become another "GALWAY BAY" or "ISLE OF INNISFREE", it is quite pretty and the Crosby takes it slow and easy all through. He is accompanied by Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians.

If there were any mysteries for you concerning L.P. records, I trust last month's article on this cleared them up and served as an introduction to these splendid pressings for some. It may surprise you to hear that, up to date, Brunswick have issued no fewer than 13 L.P. records featuring Bing. On these we may, at any time, discover material which is not available at Standard 78 r.p.m., and items for which an alternative master has been used thus differing from the 78's. We have just had an example of the former in the song "I MIGHT BE YOUR ONCE IN A WHILE" on LA 8600 - BING SINGS VICTOR HERBET SONGS, whilst a variant may be found of "I NEVER REALIZED" on LA 8513 - BING SINGS COLE PORTER SONGS. For those people with contacts in the States, the 'B' master of "SWEET GEORGIA BROWN" may be obtained in 'CROSBY CLASSICS' Volume (or album) No. 2. The number of this L.P. is 6105 and the difference between this and the 'A' master will be noticed in the 'scat' singing. Although a 1932 recording, this issue of the 'B' master on L.P. gives it it's first airing. Also from the U.S.A we get yet another variant on L.P. - "BLUE PRELUDE" which is on American Columbia No. 1521 - a 45 r.p.m. disc. 45 r.p.m. records are, at present, only available in this country by E.M.I and do not include the early Columbia Bing discs unfortunately. They are Long Playing Microgroove records, 7 inches in diameter, but play at 45 instead of 33.1/3 r.p.m. In playing time and price they are equal to the Standard 78 r.p.m. discs, but here all similarity ends for being of the same unbreakable material, they are also endowed with all the finer qualities and advantages of the 33.1/3 disc, plus the fact that they, being of smaller diameter, are easy to store - the average bookcase being easily able to accomodate them. From an L.P. standpoint they are definitely the answer for the popular song and shorter musical item, and it is hoped that Decca also, will decide to make use of them, or at least. make something very similar.

ANY AMERICAN V DISCS OR AFN DISCS OF GLENN MILLER AND ORCHESTRA WANTED
Please write to Mr. Colin Pugh, 29, Picton street, Montpelier, BRISTOL 6.

BING CROSBY RECORDS FROM 1934 to 1953 WILL BE GIVEN IN EXCHANGE FOR
AMERICAN DECCA RECORDS OF BING CROSBY.
Write Mr. Tom Colborn, 1 Durban road, West Norwood, London, S. E. 27.

An 'X' here reminds you that your membership is about to expire.